

COUNTY OF FAIRFAX



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McKay Calls on Schools to Do the Right Thing

Speaking at today's Board of Supervisor's meeting, Supervisor Jeffrey C. McKay (D-Lee) called on the schools to provide for full-day kindergarten within the parameters of the school transfer proposed by the County Executive.

"It's inexcusable that 37 of our elementary schools are still on a half-day program," he commented. "This is an issue of basic fairness to children and families and it's also one of good financial management for the school administration. Not only can we not afford to increase the school transfer, but we have no way of ensuring that the funds would be used for full-day kindergarten."

MORE

Under the Virginia constitution, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors does not have line item authority over the Fairfax County Public Schools budget. The County Board may provide budget guidance but may not require that funds be spent for particular programs.

McKay recommended strong budget guidance language with the school transfer to make the County Board's support of full-day kindergarten clear. His motion passed the Board of Supervisors on a 10-0 vote at today's meeting.

Fairfax County Public Schools receive limited funding from federal and state sources. In FY2012, 72 percent of the School's budget will come from the County's transfer of 52.5 percent of its General Fund. (Federal and state funds are 2.8 percent and 13.9 percent respectively.)

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